Wisconsin Circuit Courts Americans With Disabilities Act – Title II Public Programs, Services and Activities

The Wisconsin Court System is committed to full implementation of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA"), a comprehensive civil rights law for individuals with disabilities. Court system programs, services and activities should be readily accessible to qualified individuals with disabilities. No individual will be refused participation in a service, program, or activity solely because the individual has a disability, needs an accommodation or because a building is inaccessible. Reasonable modifications in policies and procedures will be made so that individuals with disabilities are not denied access. Courts are not required to make accommodations that would result in a fundamental alteration of court programs and services or an undue financial or administrative burden.

Effective communication with individuals with disabilities is essential. With sufficient notice, auxiliary aids an services will be provided to ensure effective communications with individuals with disabilities. When an auxiliary aid or service is required, the court system will give primary consideration to the choice expressed by the individual. Services may include sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, real-time captioning, readers, or similar assistance.

If you would like to request an accommodation, contact the <u>Clerk of Circuit Court</u> in the county where your case is filed. Please make the request well in advance so that appropriate accommodations can be arranged.

If your request is denied, you may contact the <u>District Court Administrator</u> for that county. The District Court Administrator can help pursue the matter with the proper officials. The District Court Administrator will work in conjunction with the county ADA Coordinator or other county officials, and may refer you to the county ADA complaint procedure. The District Court Administrator may also work with the Chief Judge of the Judicial District to address the issue.

The Deputy Director of State Courts for Court Operations serves as the ADA State Coordinator for the Circuit Courts, providing technical assistance and information on accessibility. Contact Sheryl Gervasi, 110 East Main Street Room 410, Madison, WI 53703-3356; Telephone: 608-266-3121, TRS: 711 or 1-800-947-6644, Email: sheryl.gervasi@wicourts.gov.

 For more information on the ADA, see the court website: http://www.wicourts.gov/services/public/ADA/index.htm